INFORMATION LETTER

Not for Publication — NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION — For Members Only

No. 1174 | Washington, D. C. | February 28, 1948

Schedule for Preparation of Bean Hearing Testimony

The following schedule of subjects has been set up for preparation of witness' testimony for the hearing, which will be held in Washington, D. C., on March 16, to amend the standards of identity and quality for canned green and wax beans:

Friday—March 12

Morning—Short pieces in regular cuts and seed tolerance.

Afternoon—Broken pieces in whole beans and fiber tolerance.

Saturday—March 13

Morning—Longer pieces in short cuts.

Afternoon—Blemish tolerance.

Monday—March 15

Meeting of all witnesses and correlation of testimony.

All discussions on the above subjects will be held at N.C.A. headquarters. The official hearing on March 16 will take place in Room 5541, Federal Security Building.

•

Dr. C. H. Mahoney, Director of the Association's Raw Products Research Bureau, served as chairman of the meeting on harvesting machinery at the Canners', Freezers', and Fieldmen's Short Course, February 26-27, at Baltimore, Md. The short course followed the one-day annual spring meeting of the Tri-State Packers Association.

•

A summary of legislation of particular interest to canners, and an account of the action taken with respect to this legislation by the Second Session of the 80th Congress, through February 26, appears on pages 131 to 133.

•

Wholesale distributors' stocks, including those in warehouses of retail food chains, of 28 canned food commodities totaled 69 million cases on January 1, 1948, a decrease of 20 percent from the 86 million cases on hand as of January 1, 1947, according to a year-end survey reported this week by the U. S. Bureau of the Census (Details will be reported next week).

"Building for Research"

The Association's Building Program was the subject of an address entitled "Building for Research," delivered by President Howard T. Cumming at the 44th annual meeting of the Canners League of California at San Francisco, February 27. Mr. Cumming stressed the need for more modern quarters and facilities for both Laboratory and administrative activities of N.C.A. in Washington and on the West Coast. He explained the financing plan and stated that plans for actual building will be thoroughly explored and developed by the Building Committee. His address appears on page 130.

Appearances have been made at other State conventions this week by N.C.A. personnel. C. J. Tressler, of the Laboratory staff, spoke to the Virginia Canners Association at Roanoke, February 24 on "Preparation for the Coming Rehearing on Bean Standards," and Happer Payne, Director of the Labeling Division, spoke on the Association's Labeling program at the February 25 meeting of the Tri-State Packers Association at Baltimore (see story on page 133). Forrest F. Heaton, Director of the N.C.A. Claims Division, also appeared on the Tri-State program, describing the Association's claims services.

Association Backs Changes in District Revenue Code

The operations of canners who sell to District of Columbia buyers would be affected by the provisions of a bill, H. R. 5317, recently introduced by Representative Smith (Va.), to amend provisions of the District of Columbia (See *District Revenue Code*, page 133)

Government Issues Instruction on Non-Cash Wage Payments

The Wage and Hour Administrator has issued a bulletin governing payment of wages in mediums other than cash. Section 3(m) of the Fair Labor Standards Act defines the "wage" to include the reasonable cost to the employer of furnishing employees with board, lodging or other facilities if such facilities are customarily furnished by the employer. The Administrator holds that this definition applies both to the minimum wage and overtime provisions. According to the bulletin, the term "other facilities" covers items similar to board and lodging, and such items as meals furnished at company restaurants, housing, merchandise at company stores, fuel, and transportation furnished employees between their homes and work. The "reasonable cost" of these items may not include any profit to the employer.

BUILDING FOR RESEARCH

—By Howard T. Cumming—

(From Address Delivered to the Canners League of California at Their 44th Annual Convention)

While the officers and staff of the National Canners Association will be absorbed in many industry problems that will arise in 1948, I venture to say that our building program will have first place in our minds. With the support of the Administrative Council and our Board of Directors we have embarked on a program that will call for foresight, courage and loyalty on the part of our membership. It is proposed that we build a new laboratory in Berkeley and a new building in Washington to house both our laboratory and administrative offices. To finance this program we have levied on ourselves what is in effect an assessment equivalent to 50 percent of the dues we paid in 1947. *We have not said that we will build in 1948 or 1949 or at any predetermined time. We have said we will purchase property—which we have done in both Berkeley and Washington, and then proceed to plan carefully.*

It may easily take a year to develop the plans for these two buildings. Whether it takes a year—or longer—it is all important that we devote our very best effort, and all the time necessary, to come up with plans that will give us the best possible facilities in the years that lie ahead. When these plans are completed and we arrive at a dependable cost figure, we can decide as to the proper time to start our building operations. We may possibly find ourselves actually building in 1948 but it is more likely to be later. Possibly our best judgment at that time may dictate that we start one building and delay the other.

The Plan of Financing

But before we can get too far into this program we shall need to be very certain that adequate funds are in sight to carry it out. The financing plan, as developed by your Buildings Committee, must have been a very fair and sound one, judging from the way it was unanimously adopted by your Board of Directors. Out of a possible total expenditure of $1,500,000, we canners are expected to contribute $400,000 in the form of an assessment—only a little more than 25 percent of the entire cost. The balance will be supplied from accumulated N.C.A. funds, from sale of current properties if this is deemed wise, from funds to be obtained from our friendly suppliers and by a loan, if one becomes necessary.

Considering the urgent need for these buildings, it strikes me that the assessment is a fair one. On the West Coast our laboratory people are trying to function under most unfavorable conditions. Regardless of their loyalty and enthusiasm they simply cannot deliver what the members need and deserve. We should have new, well-equipped, modernized Laboratories. The situation in Washington is even worse. Not only are our Laboratories inadequately equipped but our offices are such as none of us would tolerate in our own business. This N.C.A. is our own business and I am hopeful, in fact, confident, that we are going to treat it as such in respect to our facilities.

But before putting $1,500,000 into buildings, a substantial part of which will be devoted to the Laboratories, we should certainly ask ourselves if this is going to pay off. Have our Laboratories paid off in the past? Will they in the future? Is there an urgent need for these Laboratories? So far as the past is concerned there can be little doubt about it. Dr. Roy C. Newton, Vice President in charge of research for Swift & Co., who addressed us in Atlantic City, said the work of our Laboratories in contributing to the solution of the botulinus problem some years ago had in that one performance justified its entire existence.

N.C.A.'s Research Contributions

As one of the oldest of national trade associations, the National Canners Association has pioneered in food technological research and many of the present-day techniques in the canning of fruits, vegetables, fish and other products have originated in our present Laboratories at Washington and San Francisco. Certainly these Laboratories, in cooperation with those of the can makers, contributed greatly in developing the package we use today. Much of the information which lies behind present-day processing methods was gathered in our Laboratories. There is no question about their past record.

What can we hope to get today and in the immediate future from our research set-up? Perhaps, before attempting to give a specific answer, it may be worth while to recall a conversation I heard at N.C.A. Washington headquarters the week preceding the Convention at the meeting of the Scientific Research Committee. The question was asked: "What do you mean by scientific research?" The Chairman provided this answer: "Research" can be spelled by a big "R" or a little "r." The big "R" of research is the basic work that is carried on; it is the discovery of new things, such as vitamins, amino acids, etc.; it is pure science as distinguished from applied science. It is the function of the university laboratories and some of those of our great industries. The little "r" of research is the discovery of how to apply our fund of scientific knowledge to our every-day lives. Little "r" research tells us how we may use a newly discovered vitamin in such a way as to improve our nutrition. Little "r" research is a producer. It enters into your business and mine. And so it was concluded that our N.C.A. Laboratories are engaged extensively, although by no means exclusively, in little "r" research work. However, we are not ignorant of what is going on in the big "R" laboratories—the opposite is true. We must be acquainted with the progress of science, but our major efforts will be directed to serving our industry in solving its every-day problems.

Proof of Performance

There is much evidence that we are doing a big, little "r" job. During this past year a group of canners in one section of the country found themselves with a serious spoilage problem. They were not manned to handle it. Some of our people from the Washington Laboratories stepped in and straightened them out in short order. Without N.C.A. they were faced with a serious loss, not only of money, but of prestige.

As the Food and Drug Administration and the Department of Agriculture concern themselves more and more with our products, it is essential that we canners, and on an industry-wide basis, be prepared and able to work with them. If old standards are to be revised or new ones established, it is important that we have a trained staff ready to present convincing evidence in our behalf. Otherwise we find ourselves working against serious handicaps. This is an important phase of the work of our Laboratories.

I hardly need mention the work we are doing on sanitation. If this industry is to operate on a high plane and free of government inspection, it is essential that we be above reproach in respect to the sanitary conditions of our factories. Moreover, it is just good economics to keep clean. I am very certain in my own mind that the educational work of our sanitarians is worth while. It merits continuance and improvement.

The work of our laboratory personnel in the field is most impressive. They move into the canning area during the season and not only help canners with their processing operations, but gather information that is valuable to the entire industry. Moreover, as you know, our technicians conduct schools and train our own personnel so that they may be better qualified to serve us.

Our emphasis on research is nothing new. The history of N.C.A. has been built around its laboratory work.

The whole canning industry rests basically on scientific procedure. It underlies our progress in canned foods nutrition, in plant sanitation, in all the factors that maintain canned foods quality at their high level. Our progress, expansion and growth are due to our awareness of the scientific basis of the art of canning, and our new program of creating larger and more efficient facilities for laboratory work is merely another expression of this.

Laboratories Aid Other Divisions

Our Laboratories are constantly a source of aid to our other N.C.A. divisions. Our Home Economics Department often calls on the Laboratory for aid and guidance. There is a close liaison between the Laboratories and our Labeling Division. Our Claims Division frequently calls on the Laboratories to strengthen its work in our behalf. It has been said that the history of N.C.A. has been built around our laboratory work. There is reason to believe that that statement is true.

Certainly all will agree that the future of this industry will be measured to some extent by our ability to constantly improve the quality of canned foods. Such improvement is not only desirable—it is necessary. It is quite possible that continued improvement in our quality is the most urgent need of this industry today. Our Laboratories alone cannot satisfy that need. But certainly they can and will play an important part in developing new techniques that are sure to come. There has never been a time in the past when some improvement wasn't in the making. That is true today and it will be in the future. A staff of trained technicians working under favorable conditions can to a certain extent underwrite the success of this industry in the years to come.

All Activities Need Better Housing

In stressing the need for laboratory facilities I wouldn't have you think for a minute that I underestimate the importance of the other divisions of N.C.A. I know, of course, that N.C.A. without all its special services simply wouldn't be N.C.A. But I also know that if these are to serve us well they, too, need a new home. Men and women don't do their best when they are crowded into an old building which lacks all the facilities of a modern office building.

I have no hesitancy about carrying the torch for this proposed building program. It has taken us some years —about 13 to be exact—to get to the point where we could make up our minds to act. For the good of this industry I do hope we'll carry on and bring this program to a successful conclusion.

Legislative Summary – 2nd Session – 80th Congress

(Through February 26, 1948)

Alaska Salmon Trap Sites

Hearings on S. 1446–H. R. 3859, which would authorize the leasing and regulation of salmon trap sites in Alaska, were held in January by a Joint Senate-House Committee under the chairmanship of Senator Moore (Okla.), consisting of a subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce and the Salt Water Fish and Shellfish Subcommittee of the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. (A full description of the measure appears in the INFORMATION LETTER for June 21, page 295.)

Alaska Statehood

A bill providing for the admission of Alaska to statehood, H. R. 206, was introduced by Delegate Bartlett of Alaska in January, 1947. Hearings on the bill were conducted in Washington in the spring, and were followed by further hearings by a subcommittee of the House Committee on Public Lands at various places in Alaska during August and September. The bill now is under study by the subcommittee, which has resumed hearings in Washington.

Anti-Inflation Legislation

In response to President Truman's call to a Special Session to enact legislation putting an end to the inflationary trend in many consumer prices, Congress approved an anti-inflation program permitting voluntary agreements between persons engaged in industry, business and agriculture.

As approved December 30, 1947, Public Law 395 authorizes the President to encourage voluntary agreements—

"(1) Providing for allocation of transportation facilities and equipment; (2) providing for the marketing of livestock and poultry at weights and grades that represent the most efficient utilization of grain; (3) providing for allocation and inventory control of scarce commodities which basically affect the cost of living or industrial production; (4) providing for regulation of speculative trading on commodity exchanges; or which will otherwise carry out the purposes . . . of this act."

Clayton Act

No action has been taken by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on S. 104, a bill to prohibit sales of physical assets between competing corporations. The Committee has before it an Association brief which cites the practice within the industry of supplementing packs through purchases from other canners, and expresses the opinion that the measure was not designed to affect inventory sales.

A companion bill, H. R. 515, was re-drafted and reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary as H. R. 3736, last June 17. However, the House Committee on Rules has not granted a rule permitting floor action.

D. C. Revenue Act

A story explaining the D. C. Revenue Act of 1947 and the status of proposed amendments starts on page 129.

Export and Transportation Controls

Included in the anti-inflation legislation was a one-year extension of authority for the exercise of export controls and rail transportation controls. It is under this authority, which will expire February 28, 1949 (P. L. 395), that the Commerce Department is regulating exports through licenses and quotas.

Fair Labor Standards Act

The Wage and Hour Subcommittee of the House Committee on Education and Labor, under Representative Samuel K. McConnell, Jr., (Pa.) held hearings for five weeks last fall (October 20 through November 25) on many proposals to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Following the testimony of the present and former Administrators of the Wage and Hour Division, the Secretary of Labor, and representatives of both the AFL and CIO, recommending that Section 13(a)(5) (the Fisheries Exemption) be repealed, many segments of the fish canning industry submitted briefs in opposition. Among these were: Alaska Salmon Industry, Inc., Monterey Fish Processors Association, California Fish Canners Association, and the National Shrimp Canners Association.

Numerous bills to raise the minimum wage and to amend the wage and hour law in other respects have been introduced since the start of the Special Session last November 17.

Food and Drug

Landis Bill—No hearings have yet been scheduled by the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce on H. R. 3763, a bill introduced by Representative Gerald Landis (Ind.) on behalf of Indiana canners. The Landis bill would make the following amendments to the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act: (1) It would strike out the provision which makes it an offense to refuse permission to inspect property; (2) all claimants of seized food products would be extended the right to obtain a court order requiring the Government to make available a true copy of the analysis and identifying marks in connection with a seizure; (3) it would amend the definition of adulterated food to prohibit the destruction of a product that is not unfit for food; (4) limit the power to condemn and destroy food to instances in which there is substantial variation of substitution of constituent elements; and (5) would remove the 90-day limit on court review of administrative orders.

Salt Bill—No action has been taken by the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce on H. R. 4211, which was introduced last July 15 by Congresswoman Frances P. Bolton (Ohio) as a substitute for a bill which would have required that all salt sold in interstate commerce for table use be iodized. Hearings were held on the earlier measure (See INFORMATION LETTER No. 1147, page 352). H. R. 4211 would require the addition of suitable iodides only in salt sold in interstate commerce in containers holding three pounds or less of salt that will pass through a number 20 standard sieve.

Seizure Bill—The Miller Bill, H. R. 4071, which would amend the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act to permit Government seizure of contaminated food and drugs that have come to rest following interstate shipment, was passed by the House on January 13. The Senate Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce has taken no action on the bill.

The seizure bill would clarify and strengthen the Food and Drug Administrator's authority to seize and condemn food that becomes contaminated "while held for sale (whether or not the first sale)" in a warehouse on completion of its interstate journey; also, the alteration, mutilation, destruction, obliteration, or removal of labeling would be illegal, under the same conditions, if it resulted in an article's being adulterated or misbranded.

Interim Aid for Europe

In approving interim aid for Europe during the Special Session, Congress authorized the purchase of foods for foreign aid provided that they are in excess of domestic requirements and are subject to price support programs. The price at which such items might be charged against the relief appropriation would be established at the equivalent of the domestic market price of a quantity of wheat having a caloric value equal to that of the acquired commodity.

Long-Range Farm Program

Beginning in mid-October, subcommittees of the Senate and House Committees on Agriculture conducted extensive hearings to receive suggestions in drafting legislation for a long-range farm program. The Senate Committee adopted the report of its seven-man subcommittee on February 9, and recommended "that the Congress proceed to consider and enact legislation immediately to round out a coordinated, well-balanced program for agriculture."

Legislation embodying the Committee's recommendations has not been introduced, but bills are being drafted by the Senate and House Committee staffs.

The Senate Committee announced at the start of its hearings that it would receive the views of farm organizations on legislation which would take effect January 1, 1949, following the termination of the so-called Steagall commodity period during which prices of certain commodities are supported by the Government at 90 percent of parity. Both the Senate and House groups held hearings at various points throughout the country.

The Senate Committee recommended a long-range program for agriculture which would include "voluntary marketing agreements" for major farm products; support prices for "highly perishable products including fresh fruits and vegetables"; safeguards on the right of farmers to organize marketing, purchasing and service cooperatives under existing cooperative law; and improved labor placement facilities, accident prevention, and social-security services adapted to and available for rural use.

Marketing Orders

Hearings are tentatively scheduled to begin March 8 on S. 2173, which would authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to issue marketing orders designed to control the production, sale and use of citrus fruits for canning. The bill was introduced February 17 by Senator Pepper (Fla.) on behalf of himself and Senators Holland (Fla.), Hayden (Ariz.), McFarland (Ariz.), Downey (Calif.), Connally (Tex.), O'Daniel (Tex.), Morse (Ore.), Cordon (Ore.), and Cain (Wash.), and was referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

S. 2173 would amend provisions of the Agricultural Marketing Agreements Act of 1937 relating to marketing orders. It has been indicated that a companion bill may be introduced in the House.

Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1948

President Truman sent to Congress on January 19 Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1948, transferring the Bureau of Employment Security from the Federal Security Agency to the Labor Department and making permanent the temporary transfer of the United States Employment Service to that Department two years ago.

The Bureau of Employment Security administers Federal activities relating to unemployment compensation systems throughout the country. The USES administers the Government's public employment service; on January 1, 1948, it took on responsibility for a farm labor placement service, the program for which has been developed with the assistance of the canning industry.

Reorganization plans become effective if not disapproved by both houses of Congress, by concurrent resolution, within 60 days.

The House voted against the Reorganization Plan on February 25. The Senate Committee on Education and Labor was to await House action before making its recommendation to the upper house.

Tin Controls

While its Committees study the need for extending the President's war powers authority to allocate tin and other scarce materials, Congress this week voted to extend the allocation authority due to expire on February 29.

The House approved a one-month extension on February 24, and the Senate amended the bill on February 25 to extend controls for three months. An agreement on some form of temporary extension was expected as the LETTER went to press.

The House Committee on Banking and Currency began extensive hearings on January 24 on a long-term extension. Previously, the Senate Committee on Banking and Currency reported out S. 1807, which would extend existing allocation authority through June 30, 1949.

The Commerce Department's tin conservation program, which is scheduled to become effective February 29, would be invalid without the extension of controls.

President Truman, in a message to Congress on February 9, recommended that existing authority for distribution and use controls over tin and other scarce materials be continued. The Banking and Currency Committees also have received a brief from

the Association requesting that existing law be amended to prohibit any controls over tin not in force through Executive order on February 29.

The Senate Committee on Banking and Currency has under study S. 2023, prepared by Secretary of Commerce Harriman and introduced on January 19 by Senator Tobey (N.H.), which would expand Executive authority by permitting the President to assign priorities and to require acceptance and performance of contracts for certain scarce materials when such contracts are deemed vital to the domestic economy or to U. S. foreign policy.

Truman's Legislative Program

In his State of the Union message to Congress on January 6, President Truman requested programs for continuation of farm price supports, expansion of Federal crop insurance and farm cooperatives, increase in the minimum wage to 75 cents an hour, continuance of the school lunch program, and extension of the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act.

In the President's budget message of January 12, he proposed that the farm price support parity formula "should be revised to reflect basic changes in price relationships and improvements in agricultural technology." The budget message said that "a saving of 50 million dollars has been included as an estimate of the possible effects of revision of the parity formula and the level of price support."

Uniform Procurement Plan

The so-called uniform procurement bill, H. R. 1366, which authorizes purchases of services and supplies for the armed forces through a uniform purchase plan, was passed by both houses during the Second Session and became P. L. 413 on February 19.

The Act requires the use of the public advertised bid and acceptance method of purchasing canned foods by the armed services.

Water Pollution Control

No action has been taken by the House Committee on Ways and Means on the Kee-Kilgore bill, H. R. 1047-S. 244, which would allow tax deductions for expenses incurred in the construction of plants for treatment of industrial wastes now being emptied into rivers or streams. The Committee has before it several recommendations by the Association, the principal one being that the measure be broadened to include any body of water or soil absorption area in or about the United States or its territories. The Committee also has received an adverse report from the Treasury Department, and a favorable report from the Interior Department on the bill. The Senate Committee on Finance has not scheduled hearings on S. 244.

Labeling

Tri-State Packers Hear About Values of Proper Labeling

Happer Payne, Director of the N.C.A. Labeling Division, addressed the annual spring meeting of the Tri-State Packers Association in Baltimore, February 25. He said, in part:

"Your advertisement in the form of a label is on a can which in turn is on the shelves right where Mrs. Jones can reach out and actually put your product in her market basket. Another important and distinct advertising advantage of your label is that the advertising your labels do is continuous. They advertise persistently every day, every store-hour as long as your product is in stock and on display in the store.

"Many canners and distributors are modernizing and improving their labels right now. So are the manufacturers of other grocery store products. The canner with an antiquated, outmoded label, which is uninviting in appearance, is under a severe handicap in the open competition of today's retail grocery displays.

"The best labels give information about the product. If you are to serve your own selves best, you must look at this element of your labeling through consumer eyes and from the consumer viewpoint.

"If you could be at Mrs. Jones' elbow when she is shopping you could pretty well describe or explain to her what your brand represents. The problem is to produce a label which will be the best substitute for yourself.

"At Mrs. Jones' elbow in the store, you would use language she would most readily and quickly understand. You would use simple, common words rather than the specialized trade language used in talking to a wholesale buyer. You would tell her about the most important characteristics of each product. If, for example, you are a packer of peas, whole kernel corn, green and wax beans, most likely you would talk about the maturity factor.

"Women shopping do not take time to read much on labels. Therefore, for labeling purposes it is necessary to condense what you would say in conversation into one word or a brief terse phrase which can be read at a glance, and that word or short phrase must be displayed *prominently* where Mrs. Jones can see it *readily*.

"This is the principle employed in the labeling recommendations made by the Labeling Committee in its effort to provide an effective labeling program for canned foods: One word or a short brief phrase *prominently* displayed, which says quickly, almost instantaneously, what you would say in more words if you were actually in the store yourself.

"If you think we in the Labeling Division of the N.C.A. in Washington can be of any service to you in connection with your own labels, we invite you to send us samples. Perhaps we can assist in the proper application of these labeling recommendations to your brands. Perhaps some technical legal matter is not completely clear. In any event, any service you think we may render you is yours for the asking."

DISTRICT REVENUE CODE

(Concluded from page 129)

Revenue Act of 1947. The Revenue Act was passed by Congress last summer and became effective September 16, 1947. The Act was so general in its terms that it was not clear whether it would affect the operations of canners selling to District buyers, and it was not until District authorities issued regulations late in November that the full impact of the new law became known.

Under these regulations, canners who sell to District buyers through agents or brokers in the District must obtain a $10 annual license and are required to pay a tax of five percent on net income derived from sales to District buyers. The license and tax apply whether or not goods are shipped f.o.b. factory and whether or not title passes outside of the District.

In view of the heavy penalties provided for failure to obtain a license, Association counsel has been advising canners who sell to District buyers through an agent or broker in the District to file an application for license under protest. Tax returns for 1947 are not required to be filed until April 15, 1948, or until the 15th day of the fourth month following the end of the fiscal year for taxpayers on a fiscal year basis.

The Smith bill, H. R. 5317, would exempt from the tax provisions of the Revenue Act income derived from sales requiring confirmation outside the District and in which title passes outside the District. A memorandum in support of this bill and suggesting several additional amendments has been prepared by the Association in cooperation with the National Food Brokers Association. Copies of the memorandum may be secured on request from Association headquarters.

Statistics

Slight Rise Is Reported in World Food Production

The world's food production is rising slightly, but the food shortage in some deficit-producing areas is more critical than a year ago, and, because of a 10 percent increase in population, per capita world food supplies are substantially below prewar, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

A report by the Department's Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations states that world production of most major foods for 1947-48 is slightly above 1946-47, but still below the prewar average. The OFAR report says that the present outlook for 1948-49 world food production is somewhat more favorable than a year ago because of larger acreage planted in winter crops, and better growing conditions so far.

The report adds that if these more favorable conditions continue until harvest, a moderate relaxation in the present tight food situation seems likely for the 1948-49 consumption year, but that per capita supplies will continue somewhat below prewar, especially in the deficit countries.

OFAR stated that the outlook for world food production in 1948-49 is characterized by generally favorable conditions for winter crops in the Northern Hemisphere.

Distributor Stocks, Vegetables and Juices Show Decrease

Wholesale distributor stocks, including stocks in warehouses of retail food chains, of 14 principal canned food commodities totaled 49.9 million cases on February 1, 1948, a decrease of 6 percent from the 53.2 million cases on hand January 1, and 8 percent less than the 54.3 millions on December 1, 1947, the Department of Commerce states in its report of data submitted by the Bureau of the Census. Stocks of the 14 items totaled 62.1 million cases on February 1, 1947, while the February 1, 1943-1945 average was 39.3 millions.

Comparing February 1, 1948, with the same date of last year, stocks of green and wax beans in the hands of wholesalers were down 41 percent (from 6.1 to 3.6 million cases), peas decreased 32 percent (from 13.0 to 8.8 millions), and stocks of corn were off 12 percent (from 9.8 to 8.6 millions). Tomatoes, however, increased 14 percent (from 6.2 to 7.1 million cases).

Stocks of mixed fruits and pears on February 1, 1948 showed substantial increases over last year (65 and 46 percent, respectively), and peaches were up 13 percent. Apricots, however, were down 38 percent, and pineapple stocks were off 14 percent over the same period.

Wholesalers' stocks of three citrus juices (orange, grapefruit, and blend) amounted to 4,573,000 cases on February 1, a decrease of 29 percent from the 6,416,000 cases on hand a year earlier. Stocks of tomato juice, including vegetable juice combinations, were down 50 percent—from 8,790,000 to 4,401,000 cases, while pineapple juice stocks were up 8 percent from last year.

Table 1. Fourteen Canned Food Commodities

STOCKS OF WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTORS (INCLUDING WAREHOUSES OF RETAIL FOOD CHAINS)

Commodity	Feb. 1, 1948[p]	Jan. 1, 1948[r]	Dec. 1, 1947	Feb. 1, 1947	Feb. 1, 1943–1945
	1,000 cases	*1,000 cases*	*1,000 cases*	*1,000 cases*	*1,000 cases*
FOUR VEGETABLES:					
Beans, green and wax	3,572	3,777	4,010	6,067	4,865
Corn	8,595	9,337	8,839	9,762	7,308
Peas	8,815	9,775	10,357	12,990	5,732
Tomatoes	7,119	7,533	8,071	6,230	7,004
Total	28,101	30,422	31,277	35,049	24,909
FIVE FRUITS:					
Apricots	1,656	1,770	1,829	2,658	657
Mixed fruits[1]	2,332	2,478	2,546	1,414	895
Peaches	6,299	6,697	6,537	5,574	2,099
Pears	1,435	1,485	1,370	982	536
Pineapple	670	907	1,106	775	885
Total	12,392	13,337	13,388	11,403	5,072
FIVE JUICES:					
Tomato[2]	4,401	4,886	5,203	8,790	4,869
Grapefruit	1,885	1,787	1,846	3,072	3,021
Orange	1,883	1,405	1,205	2,211	900
Blended citrus	805	709	644	1,133	
Pineapple	469	665	773	433	495
Total	9,443	9,452	9,671	15,639	9,285
Total	49,936	53,211	54,336	62,091	39,266

[p] Preliminary. [r] Revised. [1] Includes fruit cocktail, fruits for salad, mixed fruits (except citrus). [2] Includes vegetable juice combinations containing at least 70 per cent tomato juice.

Table 2. Fourteen Canned Food Commodities

STOCKS OF WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTORS (INCLUDING WAREHOUSES OF RETAIL FOOD CHAINS)

Commodity	February 1, 1948[p]		January 1, 1948[r]	
	Smaller than No. 10	No. 10 and larger	Smaller than No. 10	No. 10 and larger
	1,000 cases	*1,000 cases*	*1,000 cases*	*1,000 cases*
FOUR VEGETABLES:				
Beans, green and wax	3,022	550	3,218	559
Corn	8,165	430	8,879	458
Peas	8,163	652	9,091	684
Tomatoes	6,094	1,025	6,501	1,032
Total	25,444	2,657	27,689	2,733
FIVE FRUITS:				
Apricots	1,239	417	1,306	464
Mixed fruits[1]	2,155	177	2,277	201
Peaches	5,184	1,115	5,518	1,179
Pears	1,251	184	1,308	177
Pineapple	548	122	731	176
Total	10,377	2,015	11,140	2,197
FIVE JUICES:				
Tomato[2]	3,961	440	4,427	459
Grapefruit	1,832	53	1,753	34
Orange	1,817	66	1,388	17
Blended citrus	787	18	700	9
Pineapple	446	23	641	24
Total	8,843	600	8,909	543
Total	44,664	5,272	47,738	5,473

[p] Preliminary. [r] Revised. [1] Includes fruit cocktail, fruits for salad, mixed fruits (except citrus). [2] Includes vegetable juice combinations containing at least 70 percent tomato juice.

Table 3. Ten Canned Food Commodities

PACK, COMBINED WHOLESALE AND PACKER STOCKS, AND SHIPMENTS

Commodity	Wholesale and packer stocks January 1 1947	Wholesale and packer stocks January 1 1948	Pack 1947	Pack 1946	Wholesale and packer combined shipments 1947	Wholesale and packer combined shipments 1946
	1,000 cases	*1,000 cases*	*1,000 cases*	*1,000 cases*	*1,000 cases*	*1,000 cases*
Corn	18,426	17,833	27,572	32,452	28,165	31,647
Peas	23,284	27,840	33,996	40,021	29,440	35,858
Tomatoes	9,637	16,081	23,987	21,347	17,543	18,707
Apricots	3,760	3,188	3,262	11,115	3,834	9,576
Mixed fruits [1]	3,151	4,913	9,876	9,872	8,114	9,388
Peaches	9,763	12,905	19,074	20,708	15,932	17,914
Pears	3,184	3,907	5,815	5,407	5,092	5,856
Tomato juice [2]	18,917	17,341	16,880	30,925	18,456	24,924
Total	90,122	104,008	140,462	171,847	126,576	153,870
	June 1, 1947	Feb. 1, 1948	June 1, 1947 to Feb. 1, 1948	June 1, 1946 to Feb. 1, 1947	June 1, 1947 to Jan. 31, 1948	June 1, 1946 to Jan. 31, 1947
Pineapple	660	2,384	10,145	10,271	8,421	9,586
Pineapple juice	390	1,511	7,774	6,667	6,653	7,097
Total	1,050	3,895	17,919	16,938	15,074	16,683

[p] Preliminary. [r] Revised. [1] Includes fruit cocktail, fruits for salad, mixed fruits (except citrus). [2] Includes vegetable juice combinations containing at least 70 percent tomato juice.

SOURCE: Pack and packer stocks of mixed fruits—Canners League of California; pack and packer stocks of pineapple and pineapple juice—Pineapple Growers Association of Hawaii (Hawaiian pack only); balance of packer data—National Canners Association.

Canned Fruit and Vegetable Stocks and Shipments

The following tables, compiled from recent reports issued by the N.C.A.'s Division of Statistics, compare canner stocks and shipments of canned corn, green and wax beans, lima beans, peas, tomatoes, tomato juice, apricots, peaches, pears, red pitted cherries and sweet cherries made during the 1946-47 and 1947-48 seasons. Complete reports on these canned foods have been mailed by the Association to all canners packing these items.

Figures used in the compilation of fruit stocks for the States of California, Washington and Oregon were obtained from the Canners League of California and the Northwest Canners Association. Also, the figures shown for stocks of canned fruits on January 1, 1947, were obtained from the U. S. Bureau of the Census. In addition, the Canners League of California supplied the figures on California stocks of canned tomato juice and canned tomatoes.

Canned Tomato Stocks and Shipments

	1946-47 (*Cases—basis 24/2's*)	1947-48 (*Cases—basis 24/2's*)
Total stocks, Feb. 1	3,241,000	8,864,000
Shipments during Jan.	717,000	1,482,000
Shipments, July 1 to Feb. 1	20,616,000	19,328,000

Canned Tomato Juice Stocks and Shipments

	1946-47 (*Cases—basis 24/2's*)	1947-48 (*Cases—basis 24/2's*)
Stocks, Feb. 1	9,713,000	13,005,000
Shipments during Jan.	1,790,000	1,424,000
Shipments, July 1 to Feb. 1	25,787,000	12,279,000

Green and Wax Bean Stocks and Shipments

	1946-47 (*Cases—basis 24/2's*)	1947-48 (*Cases—basis 24/2's*)
Total stocks, Feb. 1	3,945,000	3,798,000
Shipments during Jan.	813,000	1,018,000
Shipments, July 1 to Feb. 1	14,718,000	10,746,000

Canned Lima Bean Stocks and Shipments

	1946-47 (*Cases—basis 24/2's*)	1947-48 (*Cases—basis 24/2's*)
Canner stocks, Feb. 1	345,000	302,000
Shipments, Aug. 1 to Feb. 1	1,406,000	1,883,000

Canned Pea Stocks and Shipments

	1946-47 (*Cases—basis 24/2's*)	1947-48 (*Cases—basis 24/2's*)
Canner stocks, Feb. 1	8,906,000	15,543,000
Shipments during Jan.	1,044,000	1,986,000
Shipments, June 1 to Feb. 1	32,050,000	22,252,000

Canned Corn Stocks and Shipments

	1946-47 (*Cases—basis 24/2's*)	1947-48 (*Cases—basis 24/2's*)
Canner stocks, Feb. 1	6,295,000	6,534,000
Shipments during Jan.	1,634,000	1,496,000
Shipments, Aug. 1 to Feb. 1	23,486,000	19,821,000

Canned Peach Stocks and Shipments

(Shown in actual cases)

	Stocks Jan. 1, 1948	Stocks Feb. 1, 1948	Shipments during Jan. 1948
Michigan	333,570	327,473	6,097
Southeast [1]	136,489	129,819	6,670
Wash.-Oregon	470,186	397,408	72,778
California:			
Cling	4,649,326	3,948,005	701,321
Free	543,889	495,138	48,751
Other States	70,168	33,108	37,060
Total U. S.	6,203,628	5,330,951	872,677

[1] Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Stocks, Shipments Red Pitted Cherries

State	Total *Cases*
New York and Pennsylvania	
Feb. 1, 1948, stocks	11,485
Shipments for Jan.	9,620
Shipments July 1 to Feb. 1	302,176
Michigan, Wisconsin, and Ohio	
Feb. 1, 1948 stocks	145,639
Shipments for Jan.	32,572
Shipments July 1 to Feb. 1	1,881,169
Western States	
Feb. 1, 1948 stocks	25,346
Shipments for Jan.	4,763
Shipments July 1 to Feb. 1	82,267
Total United States	
Feb. 1, 1948 stocks	182,470
Shipments for Jan.	46,955
Shipments July 1 to Feb. 1	2,265,612

Canned Sweet Cherry Stocks and Shipments

(Shown in actual cases)

	Stocks Jan. 1, 1948	Stocks Feb. 1, 1948	Shipments during Jan. 1948
Wash.-Oregon	78,329	73,447	4,882
California	13,574	10,267	3,307
Other States	16,491	14,544	1,947
Total U. S.	108,394	98,258	10,136

Canned Apricot Stocks and Shipments

(Shown in actual cases)

	Stocks Jan. 1, 1948	Stocks Feb. 1, 1948	Shipments during Jan. 1948
Utah	61,273	37,537	23,736
Wash.-Oregon	75,911	65,552	10,359
California	1,293,594	1,176,292	117,302
Total U. S.	1,430,778	1,279,381	151,397

Canned Pear Stocks and Shipments

(Shown in actual cases)

	Stocks Jan. 1, 1948	Stocks Feb. 1, 1948	Shipments during Jan. 1948
Wash.-Oregon	1,673,445	1,428,828	244,617
California	572,320	464,234	108,086
Other States	184,195	146,843	37,352
Total U. S.	2,429,960	2,039,905	390,055

1947 Retail Grocers Sales Set Record, Commerce Report Says

Dollar sales of retail grocery and grocery-fresh meat stores totaled nearly 25 billion dollars in 1947, according to estimates of the Office of Business Economics of the Department of Commerce. This total, which is a new record, is 26 percent larger than dollar sales in 1946. Chain store sales, accounting for 34 percent of the total, were 34 percent over 1946.

Sales of wholesale grocers in 1947 totaled 8,681 million dollars, according to the Office of Business Economics. This total is 7 percent larger than the previous record in 1946. Based on a sample of firms reporting to the Bureau of the Census, inventories of wholesale grocers, valued at cost, on December 31, 1947, were up 3 percent over a year earlier.

Personnel

Association Officers

Virginia Canners Association

Officers elected for the coming year at the Virginia Canners Association's annual meeting, are as follows:

President (re-elected)—S. G. Wimmer, S. G. Wimmer & Son, Christiansburg; vice president—E. C. Firestone, Troutville; and secretary-treasurer (re-elected)—S. B. Huff, Roanoke.

Tennessee-Kentucky Canners Association

At the annual meeting of the Tennessee-Kentucky Canners Association at Nashville, Tenn., the following officers were re-elected for the ensuing year:

President—Shell R. Clevenger, Bush Bros. and Co., Dandridge, Tenn.; vice president—L. Houston Herndon, Humboldt Canning Co., Humboldt, Tenn.; and secretary-treasurer—C. Hays Hollar, Hollar Canning Co., Newbern, Tenn.

California Sardine Pack

Deliveries of California sardines to processing plants, during the week ended February 19, 1948, totaled 8,006 tons. Pack of sardines during the week aggregated 66,503 cases.

The following table, prepared from figures supplied by the California Sardine Products Institute, shows the sardine deliveries by districts and the pack by can sizes for the current season as compared with 1947:

	Season to Feb. 19, 1948	Season to Feb. 20, 1947
Areas	*Tons*	*Tons*
Northern district	332	2,846
Central district	15,540	26,065
Southern district	93,674	200,090
Total	109,546	228,991
Can Sizes	*Cases*	*Cases*
1-lb. ovals	707,957	625,496
1-lb. talls	479,175	1,955,391
½-lb. fillet	7,327	8,729
8-oz. 96's	34,065	34,446
Miscellaneous	124,768	61,870
Total	1,343,292	2,685,932

1947 Pack of Green and Wax Beans Is Smaller Than Last Year's

The 1947 green and wax bean pack totaled 12,142,389 actual cases as compared with 16,870,009 actual cases in 1946, the Association's Division of Statistics reported late last week. A comparison of the packs for both years is given in actual cases in the following table:

1946 and 1947 Packs of Green and Wax Beans by States

	1946 Pack		1947 Pack	
State	Green *Cases*	Wax *Cases*	Green *Cases*	Wax *Cases*
Maine, Vermont and Massachusetts	166,416	350,314	95,927	425,095
New York	1,008,997	708,341	838,963	669,910
Maryland and Delaware	3,754,863	123,490	1,632,638	159,738
Pennsylvania	333,449	132,815	169,981	270,652
Indiana	*	*	.....	.....
Michigan	349,084	103,658	234,621	87,088
Wisconsin	713,581	273,350	652,914	257,437
Iowa and Nebraska	34,625	8,702	6,128	6,305
Kentucky and Tennessee	853,561	.....	610,384	2,143
Arkansas, Missouri and Oklahoma	1,984,751	*	1,065,579	40,821
Texas	858,841	.....	879,847	*
Colorado	247,339	44,036	195,370	85,773
Utah and Idaho	105,217	13,387	82,311	*
Washington	168,004	*	588,480	*
Oregon	1,872,934	*	1,994,246	.....
California	359,693	.....	291,500	*
Other States	1,637,915	62,646	714,541	83,997
Total	15,049,270	1,820,739	10,053,430	2,088,959

* Included in Other States.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE

Standards
Schedule for preparation of bean hearing testimony 129

Meetings
Schedule for preparation of bean hearing testimony 129
"Building for research" 129-130
Tri-State Packers hear about values of proper labeling 133

Building Program
"Building for research" 129-130

Association Activities
"Building for research" 129-130
Association backs changes in District revenue code 129

Taxes
Association backs changes in District revenue code 129

Wage and Hour
Government issues instruction on non-cash wage payments 129

PAGE

Congress
Association backs changes in District revenue code 129
Legislative summary—2nd session—80th Congress 131

Labeling
Tri-State Packers hear about values of proper labeling 133

Statistics
Slight rise is reported in world food production 134
Distributor stocks, vegetables and juices show decrease 134
Canned fruit and vegetable stocks and shipments 135
1947 retail grocers' sales set record, Commerce report says 135
California sardine pack 136
1947 pack of green and wax beans is smaller than last year's 136

Personnel
Association officers 136